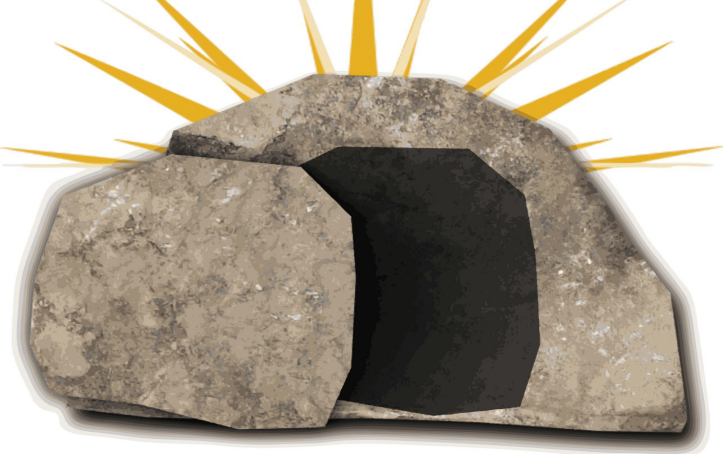


April 2019

He Is  
**RISEN**  
INDEED!



**April Memory Verse:**

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. —Galatians 2:20 (ESV)

**Marrable Hill Chapel**

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To protect from identity theft, birthdays are not listed in the on-line version of the Chapel Communique. Thank you for understanding!



This month **Golden Heirs** will be attending the **Child Evangelism Fellowship Annual Meeting (CEF)** in the Fellowship Hall on **Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm** instead of the monthly fellowship meal. CEF, an MHC supported ministry, will be presenting information about what they accomplished last year. Please provide at least \$10 to help cover the cost of the catered meal.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**April 4th** — Clothes Closet Open

**April 7th** — Guest Speaker — Bill Prescott, Bridges Intl.

**April 13th** — Easter Celebration in Gym

**April 14th** — Palm Sunday — Guest Speaker — Jimmy Yarbrough

**April 14th** — Blake and Lauren's Wedding Shower

**April 19th** — Good Friday — Office closed

**April 21st** — Easter Program

**April 27th** — Ladies Day Out — Governor Mike Huckabee Delta Rivers Nature in Pine Bluff



## Farewell

### By Natalie Butcher

Has it really been over 13 years since Bro. Ben Wasson became the senior pastor of Marrable Hill Chapel (MHC)? It seems like yesterday that he came to MHC! During this time, there have been multiple men leading the youth — Scott Taylor, Patrick Fitzgerald, Nick Daniel, Tony Moyer, Jason Luker, and Blake Dailey. There have been many, many men who have served as deacons and elders — too many to list here. In my personal life, I have lost my father-in-law, my dad, my mom, a cousin, and two uncles. My daughter, Stephanie, graduated from high school, graduated from college, worked 2 different jobs, and is now buying a house. Wow! Time has flown by!



2006

2019

As I look back over the years that Bro. Ben has served this church, I reflect on what I have learned under his leadership. “What does the Bible say?” was a frequent quote he used to teach us how to live as Christians and to know right from wrong. I learned to be like the Bereans (Acts 17:11) — compare what is taught vs. what the Bible says regardless of who is

*“What does  
the Bible say?”*

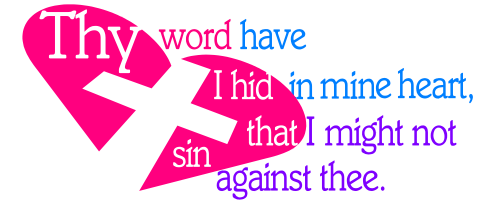


*(FAREWELL — Continued on page 9)*

## Prayer Jars

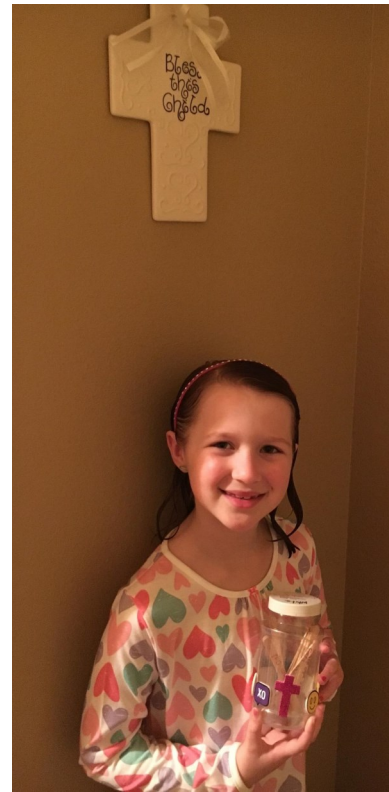
### By Ruth Guinn

During Children's Church, we work on memorizing the Lord's Prayer. In Sunday School, AWANA (Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed), as well as Children's Church, the students memorize scripture from the Bible. It's so important to review these things with kids in order for them to retain this knowledge and apply them in their lives.



P s a l m 1 1 9 : 1 1

Earlier this year, the kids made prayer jars where they decorated the jar, wrote prayers on craft sticks, and placed the sticks into their jar. They also took blank craft sticks so they could add to their prayer jar. During their prayer time at home — no matter the time of day or how many times in the day, they can pull sticks out of their prayer jar to remind them of what to pray about.



At church, they came up with a lot of great ideas on things to pray for. Ashton Bailey's prayer sticks included the military and freedom. What great ideas from a 6th grader! Isabella Brooks suggested she should pray for her friend that gets sick a lot. What a big heart for someone in the second grade.

Isabella lives in Monroe, LA with her mother Meredith, but when she comes to stay with her Nona & Poppa (Benny

*(PRAYER — Continued on page 8)*



## Young Adult Small Group By Blake Dailey



On Sunday nights at 6 p.m., a group of young adults meet at my apartment. We have been studying a series called “Freedom” which looks at how we gain true freedom from our past mistakes. It has been a wonderful study that the young adults are learning a lot from, but the best part about the whole experience has been just getting to know everyone and having great fellowship.

The first night we came together and just played games and got to know each other. This small group has created an environment where we can come together and discuss our struggles with people going through similar stages of their life. Some couples are now going to dinner and hangout outside the small group.



## Ladies Night Out By Natalie Butcher

In March, ladies of Marrable Hill Chapel met for a time of fellowship, food, and fun. The evening started with visiting and eating tacos. Yum!



After eating, we had a presentation by Laura Rogers. The focus was on Arkansas Wildlife — or more specifically, the black bear. She told us that black bears are native Arkansans. In the mid-1880s, the state became known as The Bear State, because there were so many bears roaming in Arkansas. Due to overhunting and habitat loss in the first half of the 20th century, black bears were almost wiped out. A relocation program to release bears from Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Canada into the Ozark and Ouachita national forest was established in the late 1950s/early 1960s. The population in Arkansas has grown enough that hunting is now allowed in zones 1, 2, 5, and 5a. During the 2017-2018 hunting season, 417 bears were harvested from these zones.



**Fun facts:** Up to 90% of the bear’s diet is fruits, berries, twigs, and grasses. The rest is insects. Bears mate every other year after they are 3-4 years old. Cubs stay with their mothers until the spring of their second year. Mother bears (sows) aggressively force male offspring to leave their territory — a way God designed to reduce inbreeding.

*(LNO — Continued on page 8)*

## Golden Heirs

By Joan Hershberger



Games and gadgets kept the Golden Heirs occupied after their monthly shared supper with 18 in attendance. Ruth Guinn directed the 18 in attendance to join in a game.

Five recruits wore blind folds. Each was handed a wooden letter and told to figure out what word the five letters would form.

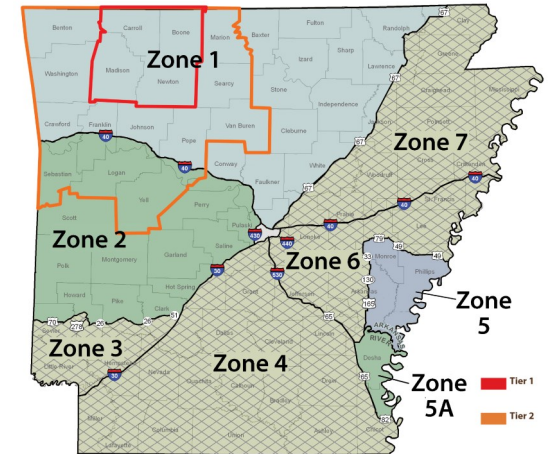
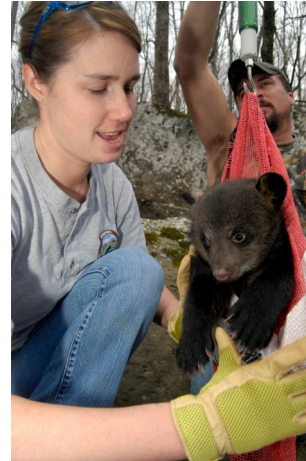
Beth Cook, Joseph Hershberger, Mary Alice Nelson, Bill Cook, and Patty Walker participated. Ruth gave them letters to spell out Jesus. Because they were blind folded each person had to feel around the shape of the letter to determine which letter they had and then work together as a group to figure out how to arrange the letters into a word ... all while blindfolded. With much laughter and fumbles for the right letter, they finally completed the spelling.



Before going to another table to work on crafts, Ruth played a worship song. Then many went over to make prayer bottles. Individual prayer needs were listed on sticks to pull out during prayer time. They also worked on sand art to make decorative items to use or wear. Patty Walker was especially pleased with her  
(OCC—Continued on page 14)

## LNO (Continued from page 6)

Arkansas black bears don't truly hibernate and can be awakened, although they go into a deep sleep during part of winter. Bears in our area nest in the inside of hollowed trees. Yes, black bears climb trees.



## PRAYER (Continued from page 4)

& Janell Vestal, grandparents) she visits MHC. We really enjoy these times with Isabella. Meredith shared that her daughter, pulls a stick out and prays for whatever is on that stick. Isabella told her mom, "I used to always pray the same little kid's bedtime prayer every night - day after day, because I didn't know what to pray. Now, thanks to my prayer jar I can pray my own prayers." Thanking God for the children in our lives!



God Hears and Answers Prayers



## FAREWELL (Continued from page 3)

teaching. After all, the Bereans took what PAUL taught and compared it to the scriptures and he was one of the great leaders of the early church and the author of many New Testament books!

On Sundays, he would remind us to look around to see if anyone was missing and to contact them to let them know that we missed them. He also encouraged us to be welcoming and reach out to visitors. We are one body and we need to take care of each other.

He has also taught the church about finding our purpose by looking at our S.H.A.P.E. (Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experiences). I remember taking a personality test (one part of S.H.A.P.E.) and discovering my top two personality types — improving on the positive traits and being aware of and reducing the negatives. I learned that a trait that can be an asset can also become a liability (IE: Laid back Phlegmatics can be very good at looking for efficient ways to do something, but they can also be lazy). I also learned how different personalities can conflict with others and how to minimize it.

Over the years, he has brought in consultants/speakers and read/shared books to help MHC discover what we, as a church, need to do to not become a statistic — a dead church.



For the last two years, I have had the privilege of working for Bro. Ben as MHC church secretary. One of the things that he has done for the staff (& others), is have them fill out a survey on favorite food, candy, color, etc. He used and encouraged others to use this information to help encourage each other and celebrate events like birthdays. I know that others have been blessed by his thoughtful actions. I enjoyed getting M&Ms and a card for my birthday!

(FAREWELL — Continued on page 10)

## FAREWELL (Continued from page 9)

...And his sense of humor!!!! From the pulpit, he told us to look up a verse in Hezekiah. Hezekiah? Where is that book in the Bible?! He made you think and laugh. His text messages are funny too! I have laughed out loud many times after receiving a text from him. Do you remember his character at the 2018 Valentine's Dinner? He recited the story of "Rinderella" that Archie Campbell and Roy Clark told on the TV sitcom "Hee Haw" years ago.



Whenever there wasn't a Men's Bible Study on Wednesday nights, you could see him in the Youth Room during large group time or over at AWANA with the kids.

Bro. Ben is a pastor that not only studies and preaches, but he also isn't afraid to get his hands dirty and do physical work. When the church had a work day, he was out there sweating with everyone else. When the Fellowship Hall flooded, he jumped in and helped vacuum up the water. He is a man of faith and action. He regularly helps his neighbors with yardwork. He has helped many people that we will never know about, but God knows. He is a man that loves family — especially his precious granddaughter, Ivy.



(FAREWELL — Continued on page 15)

## Bridges International Vision Conference (An MHC Supported Mission Organization)

Elise (Endel) Sanchez, Beth and Danny Endel’s daughter, is a missionary that Marrable Hill Chapel supports. She works for Bridges International in the Ruston area on the Louisiana Tech University and Grambling State University campuses. Bridges is a subsidiary organization Campus Crusade for Christ that focuses on international students.



Every year, Bridges International holds a conference called “Vision Conference”. Its purpose is to provide a safe environment where non-Christian, international students can freely learn about and discuss Jesus. It is also designed to grow Christian students (international and

American) in their faith and teach them how to reach the international community. The conference has been held in Washington, D.C. and Florida, but this year was in Colorado. Marrable Hill Chapel helped sponsor some of the students that attended this year’s conference.

Per a 2019 Bridges Illumination newsletter, “Vision 2018 offered breakout sessions according to four cultural groupings. The “Children of Abraham” served students from North Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia; the South Asian track blessed those from India and neighboring lands; the Chinese track taught students from Mainland China and other Chinese-speaking areas; and the Multi-Nations track assisted students from places as diverse as Mongolia, Japan, South Korea and Peru. Two other conference tracks—“Ambassadors” and “Partners”—provided advanced training to Christians in how to minister to internationals.”



(CONFERENCE — Continued on page 12)

## CONFERENCE (Continued from page 11)



At the conference, 71 countries were represented by the 652 attendees. The Ruston area group caravanned 25 students and staff. Per Bill Prescott, head of Bridges in Ruston, “Almost half of our Tech group that went were Muslims and were in the Children of Abraham track with us. We didn’t take pictures for security reasons. All four days of the track we studied and discussed the theme of the Messiah in the Bible.”

Here are a few stories that Bill shared from the conference:

“A Two-Hour Wait!?! On a free afternoon at Bridges’ Vision conference, Song Jian looked forward to hanging out with friends from Seattle. They planned on lunch at Casa Bonita restaurant—famous in Denver for employees cliff jumping into a small pool — then ice skating. Song had just learned in the Ambassador track, which Monica directed, how to share his faith. Song began praying for opportunities to share the gospel with his non-Christian friends. As Casa Bonita’s wait stretched to over two hours, he realized this might be his chance. A conversation with a Taiwanese friend progressed to the good news about Jesus. Soon, this friend prayed to receive Christ. A smile beamed across Song’s face as he shared this story with the Ambassador track. Jesus allowed life-change and massive smiles to pervade our 2018 Bridges’ Vision conference.



A South Asian student from Ohio said: “When I came to Vision last year, religion was for me only rules to live by. Then I was

(CONFERENCE — Continued on page 13)



## CONFERENCE (Continued from page 12)

blown away by the beauty of Jesus. This year, I feel even more at home because I have given my life to Him.”

Marshall, a South African student, started talking about Jesus with Masaya from Japan. Midway through their conversation, he sensed he should change the discussion by using “Honor Restored”. God opened Masaya’s heart and he professed faith in Christ.”



The conference was a great success! Jesus told us in Matthew 28:18-20 to “Go and make disciples of all nations”. God is bringing “all nations” to us at our colleges. Organizations like Bridges reach these students with the gospel. This conference is an example of how our church uses “Faith Promise Funds” to support missionaries in America and abroad. Thank you for your support!



On April 7th, Bill Prescott will be our guest speaker at MHC’s Sunday Morning Service. He will briefly explain about his ministry, then share a Word from God. “Come and see what God has done, his awesome deeds for mankind!” Psalm 66:5 (NIV)

(Pictures provided by Bill Prescott, Bridges International in Ruston, and Illumination Newsletter)

## HEIRS (Continued from page 7)

creation.



Before leaving, the group discussed the request by Child Evangelism Fellowship to hold their annual banquet in the Fellowship Hall on the night that the Golden Heirs typically would

meet in April. Many thought it best to simply combine the two and make the next Golden Heirs activity to be a night of learning about a ministry outreach of Marrable Hill Chapel. A catered fish meal is planned with each person asked to donate at least \$10 for the cost.

CEF is under the direction of Donna Allen who has provided the story time at the annual Fall Festival where some have come to know Christ as Saviour. Allen also has provided lessons for Junior Week at camp and often for the children at the Family Weekends in June. This is a great time to find out more about CEF and the schools and children being reached. The meeting will focus on CEF, not the Golden Heirs and will be open to other churches who are interested in the ministry.





## FAREWELL (Continued from page 10)



As his last day on staff approaches, I think about how we are not only losing a great pastor, but also his incredible helpmate, Lynette. To me, she exemplifies the Proverbs 31 woman. She not only helped him in his ministry (like going with him to visit the sick) and took care of the home front, but she also had her own ministries. She has taught Sunday School to 1st-3rd graders, extended session with 4-5 year old children, and substituted in the nursery. She has been very involved in Vacation Bible School too.



Over the years she has been involved in the Women's Ministry and other ministries. But it isn't just her serving that I will miss, it's her encouragement and love for the Lord. There is no way that I can properly express my thanks and appreciation for her.

(FAREWELL — Continued on page 16)

## FAREWELL (Continued from page 15)



March 31st is Bro. Ben's last day at MHC — the last time that he serves the Lord's Supper here. Later in the afternoon, there will be an opportunity for us to show him our appreciation. I know that I will miss both Bro. Ben and Lynette. I know that God has a plan for them and that He has a plan for Marrable Hill Chapel. As my US Navy veteran says, "Fair winds and a following sea". Farewell!

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make His face shine upon you,  
And be gracious to you;  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,  
And give you peace.  
—Numbers 6:24-26 (ESV)



Philippians 1:3, NRSV

Chapel Communiques can be found on Marrable Hill Chapel's website (<https://www.marrablehillchapel.com/newsletters>).